The National Standards for Quality (NSQ) provide the K-12 online and blended learning community with an updated set of openly licensed standards (formerly iNACOL standards) to help evaluate and improve online courses, online teaching, and online programs.

The National Standards for Quality Online Teaching are...

- **RESEARCH-SUPPORTED** STANDARDS FOR QUALITY ONLINE LEARNING
- **FLEXIBLE** TO MEET UNIQUE INSTITUTIONAL SITUATIONS AND NEEDS
- **REGULARLY REVIEWED AND REVISED** TO KEEP THE STANDARDS RELEVANT
- **REVISED AND UPDATED** BY ONLINE LEARNING RESEARCHERS AND PRACTITIONERS
- **RECOMMENDED FOR USE** IN DEVELOPMENT, EVALUATION, AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT
- **USED** BY K-12 ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS

NSQ Online Teaching Standards - Revised 2019

116 Organizations from 32 States and 3 Countries

Community Effort with Project Contributors

https://nsqol.org/resources

Example Standard

**STANDARD D: LEARNER ENGAGEMENT**

D4 The online teacher establishes relationships through timely and encouraging communication using various formats.

**EXPLANATIONS**

Regardless of who the online teacher is communicating with, effective communication methods are necessary to successful two-way communication.

The online teacher is proficient at communicating using various formats (e.g. text audio, video, synchronous, asynchronous) and selects the format that is best for the specific situation and purpose.

**EXAMPLES**

Depending on the situation, purpose, and participants, the online teacher strategically selects a communication format (e.g. text audio, video, synchronous, asynchronous).

At the start of the course, the online teacher works to develop relationships with learners by communicating in a welcoming way that allows learners to recognize the online teacher as a "real" person who wants them to be successful.

Teaching Standards

- A: Professional Responsibilities
- B: Digital Pedagogy
- C: Community Building
- D: Learner Engagement
- E: Digital Citizenship
- F: Diverse Instruction
- G: Assessment & Measurement
- H: Instructional Design

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